

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, when the Speaker of this House was sworn in, he promised to get the appropriations bills done on time. Well, we are into November, the second month of the new fiscal year, and it is not done. The Republican leadership cannot do the regular business of this House on time.

But the greater tragedy is our failure to make progress on substantive challenges. Democrats and some dedicated Republicans worked to pass campaign finance reform, but Republicans killed it in the other body.

Democrats tried to make our streets and our schools safer for children by passing modest gun safety provisions; Republicans killed it.

Democrats tried to make health care safer for patients by passing a Patients' Bill of Rights; Republicans killed it.

Democrats tried to make this world safer by passing the comprehensive test ban treaty; Republicans killed it.

Democrats tried to help our seniors pay for their prescription drugs, and Republicans killed it.

With this sorry record of nonachievement, it is time to go home and work harder next year to make progress on the issues that matter to America's families.

FOCUS ON SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. PHELPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PHELPS. Madam Speaker, in an era of unprecedented economic growth and prosperity, we have a responsibility to implement policy that ensures continued growth for all sectors of our society. That requires investing in the future, creating a better America for our children, a future in which working families can afford to send their children to college and in which all Americans can count on the continued integrity of Social Security.

As I talk with my constituents in Southern Illinois, I am encouraged that people are actively discussing the many ways to address the future of Social Security. I believe we need to start by paying down the national debt. My constituents realize we must be fiscally responsible. Reducing the national debt is the best tax cut we can provide to working men and women.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to focus on saving Social Security, reducing the national debt, balancing the budget and reforming Medicare. We owe them this.

CENSORSHIP AND THREATS ISSUED BY CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I have some shocking news this morning. If my colleagues will recall, last Thursday, I think in a moment of spectacular madness, the majority of this House passed a bill that cut the funding for research to the National Institutes of Health until the last 2 days of the fiscal year next year.

The troubling news I have this morning is that it has come to our attention that a brazen act by some staffers in Congress has taken place. Majority staffers in the other body have warned the National Institutes of Health researchers and the research advocates that if they complain about the delays proposed for the research, their own funding is going to be jeopardized.

This is a scandal of major proportions; taking away the first amendment rights and the rights of people to try to address this body.

Now, just yesterday it was announced by researchers at the University of Rochester, New York, in my district, that they have discovered that genetic material from the HIV virus can kill cancer tumors. They tell me that this and other NIH-funded research is what is going to be hampered in Rochester if their funding is delayed.

The chairman of the Labor-HHS subcommittee yesterday asked the President to veto the bill because he is stunned too by its irresponsibility.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET BILL DOES NOTHING FOR SOCIAL SECURITY OR MEDICARE AND HURTS EVERY FAMILY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, the Republican leadership's budget bill does not extend the life of Social Security even by one single day, it fails to provide one penny for Medicare prescription drug benefits, and, frankly, the only thing it does do is to hurt American families, every American family, in a very, very real way.

As one of my colleagues earlier said, if it were not so tragic it would be laughable to hear the Republican leadership on the other side of the aisle talk about their allegiance and their heartfelt sympathy about Social Security and their desire to want to save Social Security. However, their majority leader, in 1984, called Social Security "a bad retirement, a rotten trick on the American people," and I quote, "I think we are going to have to bite the bullet on Social Security and phase it out over a period of time."

He said that in 1984. Now let us fast-forward to 1994. On a C-SPAN call-in show he was asked, "Are you going to take the pledge? Are you going to promise not to cut people's Social Security to meet your promises? No, I am not going to make such a promise. I would never have created Social Security."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 4 p.m. today.

□ 1030

ENCOURAGING EDUCATION OFFICIALS TO PROMOTE FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 213) encouraging the Secretary of Education to promote, and State and local educational agencies to incorporate in their education programs, financial literacy training.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 213

Whereas in order to succeed in our dynamic American economy, young people must obtain the skills, knowledge, and experience necessary to manage their personal finances and obtain general financial literacy;

Whereas all young adults should have the educational tools necessary to make informed financial decisions;

Whereas despite the critical importance of financial literacy to young people, the average student who graduates from high school lacks basic skills in the management of personal financial affairs;

Whereas a nationwide survey conducted in 1997 by the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy examined the financial knowledge of 1,509 12th graders;

Whereas on average, survey respondents answered only 57 percent of the questions correctly, and only 5 percent of the respondents received a 'C' grade or better;

Whereas an evaluation by the National Endowment for Financial Education High School Financial Planning Program undertaken jointly with the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service demonstrates that as little as 10 hours of classroom instruction can impart substantial knowledge and affect significant change in how teens handle their money;

Whereas State educational leaders have recognized the importance of providing a basic financial education to students in grades kindergarten through 12 by integrating financial education into State educational standards, but by 1999 only 14 States